

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition assist frame selecting method for a digital camera that images a subject in a shooting mode selected from a plurality of shooting modes and displays a composition assist frame selected from a plurality of composition assist frames on an image displaying device that displays the image of the subject to assist composition, wherein:

the digital camera extracts at least one composition assist frame that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the shooting mode.

2. The composition assist frame selecting method for the digital camera as defined in claim 1, wherein the plurality of shooting modes include at least two of an automatic shooting mode, a day scenic shooting mode, a person shooting mode and a night scenic shooting mode.

3. A composition assist frame selecting method for a digital camera that displays a composition assist frame selected from a plurality of composition assist frames on an image displaying device that displays an image of a subject to assist composition, wherein:

the digital camera has a direction determining device that determines whether the digital camera is held widthwise or lengthwise; and

the digital camera extracts at least one composition assist frame that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the direction of the camera determined by the direction determining device.

4. A composition assist frame selecting method for a digital camera that images a subject in a shooting mode selected from a plurality of shooting modes and displays a composition assist frame selected from a plurality of composition

the digital camera has a direction determining device that determines whether the digital camera is held widthwise or lengthwise; and

the digital camera extracts at least one composition assist frame that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the shooting mode and the direction of the camera determined by the direction determining device.

5. The composition assist frame selecting method for the digital camera as defined in claim 4, wherein the plurality of shooting modes include at least two of an automatic shooting mode, a day scenic shooting mode, a person shooting mode and a night scenic shooting mode.

6. A digital camera comprising:

a shooting mode selecting device that selects a shooting mode from a plurality of shooting modes;

an imaging device that images a subject in the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device and outputs image signals;

an image displaying device that displays the image according to the image signals outputted from the imaging device;

a storing device that stores data of a plurality of composition assist frames:

an extracting device that extracts one or more composition assist frames that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device;

a composition assist frame selecting device that selects a composition assist frame from the composition assist frames extracted by the extracting

device; and

a composition assist frame displaying device that displays the composition assist frame selected by the composition assist frame selecting device on the image displaying device displaying the image.

7. The digital camera as defined in claim 6, wherein the plurality of shooting modes include at least two of an automatic shooting mode, a day scenic shooting mode, a person shooting mode and a night scenic shooting mode.

8. The digital camera as defined in claim 6, further comprising a luminance determining device that determines subject luminance by weighting areas of the image according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device, the imaging device controlling exposure according to the subject luminance determined by the luminance determining device.

9. The digital camera as defined in claim 8, wherein the luminance determining device corrects the subject luminance according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device.

10. The digital camera as defined in claim 6, further comprising a storage device that stores the image signals outputted from the imaging device in a storage medium.

11. A digital camera comprising:

an imaging device that images a subject and outputs image signals;

an image displaying device that displays the image according to the image signals outputted from the imaging device;

a storing device that stores data of a plurality of composition assist

frames;

a direction determining device that determines whether the digital camera is held widthwise or lengthwise;

an extracting device that extracts one or more composition assist frames that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the direction of the camera determined by the direction determining device;

a composition assist frame selecting device that selects a composition assist frame from the composition assist frames extracted by the extracting device; and

a composition assist frame displaying device that displays the composition assist frame selected by the composition assist frame selecting device on the image displaying device displaying the image.

12. The digital camera as defined in claim 11, further comprising a storage device that stores the image signals outputted from the imaging device in a storage medium.

13. A digital camera comprising:

a shooting mode selecting device that selects a shooting mode from a plurality of shooting modes;

an imaging device that images a subject in the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device and outputs image signals;

an image displaying device that displays the image according to the image signals outputted from the imaging device;

a storing device that stores data of a plurality of composition assist frames;

a direction determining device that determines whether the digital camera is held widthwise or lengthwise;

an extracting device that extracts one or more composition assist frames that can be selected from the plurality of composition assist frames according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device and the direction of the camera determined by the direction determining device;

a composition assist frame selecting device that selects a composition assist frame from the composition assist frames extracted by the extracting device; and

a composition assist frame displaying device that displays the composition assist frame selected by the composition assist frame selecting device on the image displaying device displaying the image.

14. The digital camera as defined in claim 13, wherein the plurality of shooting modes include at least two of an automatic shooting mode, a day scenic shooting mode, a person shooting mode and a night scenic shooting mode.

15. The digital camera as defined in claim 13, further comprising a luminance determining device that determines subject luminance by weighting areas of the image according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device, the imaging device controlling exposure according to the subject luminance determined by the luminance determining device.

16. The digital camera as defined in claim 15, wherein the luminance determining device corrects the subject luminance according to the shooting mode selected by the shooting mode selecting device.

17. The digital camera as defined in claim 13, further comprising a storage device that stores the image signals outputted from the imaging device in a storage medium.